

**GYNÆCOLOGICAL ENDOCRINOLOGY FOR THE PRACTITIONER.** By  
P. M. F. Bishop, D.M.(Oxon). Second edition. (Pp. 132. 12s.). Edinburgh:  
E. & S. Livingstone. 1951.

THIS book of 132 pages is a compact, interesting and easily read review of the very difficult and complicated subject of gynaecological Endocrinology.

The book is primarily for general practitioners but many consultants and M.R.C.O.G. examination candidates can read the book and profit thereby. Dr. Bishop is a leading authority on endocrinology in Guy's Hospital Medical School, the Chelsea Hospital and the Postgraduate Medical School of London.

In this edition many alterations have been made and much of the book has been re-written and brought up to date—very necessary in dealing with such a changeable subject as endocrinology.

A chapter on steroid chemistry has been introduced, and in spite of the frightening nature of the carbon ring diagrams the author has succeeded in simplifying for the uninitiated a very difficult branch of chemistry. This chapter, like all the others, is self-contained and can therefore be utterly ignored without interrupting the general theme of the book.

To the mechanical mind the diagram of the menstrual clock is a masterpiece of ingenuity. The pituitary cog wheel works the ovarian cog wheel which in turn is geared to the large hand travelling round the 28 day cycle of an endometrial dial. The reviewer almost expected to find a mechanism in the diagram which would allow the clock to free wheel during a pregnancy.

To anyone at all interested in endocrines this book can be thoroughly recommended.

G. B.

**HANDBOOK OF GYNÆCOLOGY.** By Trevor L. S. Baynes, M.D.(Lond.),  
F.R.C.S.(Eng.), M.R.C.O.G. (Pp. 163. 15s.). London: Sylviro Publications.  
1951.

THIS small book of 163 pages represents according to the author a distillation of knowledge gained by clinical experience, reading of literature and listening to the conversation of others. It is not intended to be a standard textbook, but rather to help those interested in gynaecology, especially from an examination point of view.

The author has obviously had much experience as a teacher and as an examiner. He presents the facts in the concise orderly manner well liked by students, and he has reduced controversy to a minimum. His material incorporates most of the recent advances.

The book is said to be of value to candidates for the M.R.C.O.G. examination, but one would only recommend the book for a last minute review of the subject. It should be of great value, however, to the teacher of gynaecology in revising his lecture notes.

There are no diagrams, no bibliography and operative technique is not described in detail.

Although there are people who dislike this type of publication the reviewer is much in favour of it and enjoyed reading it.

G. B.

**ANY QUESTIONS?** A Selection of Questions and Answers published in the  
British Medical Journal. First Series. (Pp. xii + 240. 7s. 6d.). London:  
British Medical Association, 1951.

SINCE 1943 practitioners have been submitting questions to the *British Medical Journal* and receiving answers from anonymous but well qualified specialists. This selection of questions and answers has been revised and brought entirely up-to-date and the book gives clear and authoritative guidance on many problems of constant concern to the practitioner and of interest to the consultant whose curiosity strays even a short way from his own speciality. It is impossible to give any indication of the subjects discussed; these range from syringing out ears to embalming bodies, from the care of the nails to the killing habits of leopards and leopard men and from diets for obesity to the significance of cold agglutinins.